

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: P:PMARTINEZ

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:DMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177840

WHITE HOUSE PASS TO SECRETARY AT CAMP DAVID

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT BEIRUT 6371, SENT SECSTATE, INFO DAMASCUS,
TEL AVIV 18 JULY:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6371

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MILI, LE, SY

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT APPROVAL REQUESTED FOR ISSUANCE OF STATEMENT
DENYING U.S. PLOT IN LEBANON

1. FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF REPORT IN JULY 17 EDITION OF LEFTIST
NEWSPAPER "AL-MUHARRIR" RE U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN LEBANON IN
COLLUSION WITH ISRAEL, SYRIAN AND MARONITES (BEIRUT 6353), KAMAL
JUMBLATT IS QUOTED TODAY, JULY 18, AS SAYING THAT US HAS GIVEN SYRIAN
S

A ONE-MONTH DEADLINE TO EXECUTE "THE LAST STEP OF THE PLOT TO
DISMEMBER LEBANON AND LIQUIDATE THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND
THE NATIONAL LEBANESE MOVEMENT."

2. IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING AND IN INTEREST OF TRYING TO QUIET TO EXTEN
T

POSSIBLE CHARGED ATMOSPHERE AFFECTING UPCOMING EVACUATION, STRONGLY
URGE THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE FOLLOWING RELEASE TO LOCAL PRESS
FOR PUBLICATION TOMORROW, JULY 19, DAY BEFORE EVACUATION.

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3. BEGIN TEXT. THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF PRESIDENT FORD IN LEBANON, AMBASSADOR TALCOTT SEELYE, HAS TAKEN NOTE OF PUBLISHED ALLEGATIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES IS IN SOME WAY INVOLVED IN PLOTS AGAINST THE UNITY OF LEBANON AND AGAINST CERTAIN LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS.

AMBASSADOR SEELYE WISHES TO STATE IN THE STRONGEST AND MOST CATEGORIC TERMS THAT THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE TOTALLY DEVOID OF ANY TRUTH

.
IN THIS CONNECTION, HE HAS READ WITH SATISFACTION THE DENIAL ISSUED BY THE PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY Wafa IN ITS BULLETIN OF JULY 17.

AS THE US GOVERNMENT HAS EMPHASIZED ON NUMEROUS OCCASION, IT IS COMPLETELY OPPOSED TO THE PARTITION OF LEBANON AND STRONGLY SUPPORTS A UNITED LEBANON WHOSE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY ARE FULLY RESPECTED. WITH REGARD TO THE PALESTINIANS, THE US HAS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS STATED THAT A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT MUST TAKE THEIR LEGITIMATE INTERESTS INTO ACCOUNT.

THE UNITED STATES IS PLOTTING AGAINST NO ONE AND SUPPORTS NO ONE FACTION AGAINST ANOTHER. IT WISHES TO SEE AN END TO THE TRAGIC FIGHTING IN LEBANON AND A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES. IT WELCOMES ALL CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL AND STANDS READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY IT CAN. END TEXT.

4. IN THIS CONNECTION, EMBASSY HAS PASSED ALONG TO PLO A REPORT (PICKED UP YESTERDAY FROM PATIENT AT AUB HOSPITAL) THAT "JIBHA SHAABIYEH" (POPULAR FRONT, PRESUMABLY PFLP) DOES NOT RPT NOT INTEND TO ALLOW THIS AMERICAN EVACUATION TO GO OFF WITHOUT A HITCH. WHILE PLO HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THIS REPORT AND WE ARE CONFIDENT PLO WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE SECURITY FOR EVACUATION, OUR PROPOSED STATEMENT WOULD DEFINITELY CLEAR THE AIR. SEELYE UNQUOTE.
ROBINSON

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